

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NAIROB 00541 201513Z

43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

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R 201355Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 988

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EALR, ECIN, KE, TZ, UG

SUBJECT: EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

1. EAST AFRICAN MINISTER FOR COMMON MARKET AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, R.J. OUKO, KENYAN CITIZEN, CALLED ME IN SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 18, PARTLY TO DISCUSS COMMUNITY AFFAIRS AND PARTLY TO REQUEST ASSISTANCE ON PERSONAL MEDICAL PROBLEM. I AM SENDING SEPARATE LETTER TO AF/E ON MEDICAL PROBLEM.

2. REGARDING EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY, OUKO'S HOLD ON OPTIMISM SEEMED TENUOUS. HE DID NOT SEE COLLAPSE OF COMMUNITY AS IMMINENT BUT DID EXPRESS FEAR THAT THREE MEMBER STATES MAY HAVE LOST QUOTE POLITICAL WILL UNQUOTE TO CONTINUE FOR LONG UNDER TREATY AS NOW WRITTEN. ACK OF POLITICAL WILL IS EVIDENT, FOR EXAMPLE, IN REFUSAL OF ANY ONE STATE TO TAKE LEAD IN TRANSFERRING BLOCKED CORPORATION FUNDS TO OTHERS ON SHARE-ALIKE BASIS. THOUGH SECRETARIAT HAD VIRTUALLY CLAMORED FOR MANDATE TO REVISE TREATY, IF THAT WOULD DIMINISH UNHAPPINESS OVER CESSION OF SOVEREIGNTY IN GIVEN AREAS, THERE WAS NO RESPONSE AT NATIONAL LEVEL.

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PAGE 02 NAIROB 00541 201513Z

3. I ASKED WHETHER IT WOULD NOT BE REVITALIZING FOR
THREE HEADS OF STATE TO MEET. HE REPLIED UNQUESTIONALBY
YES, BUT MEETING OF AUTHORITY NOT UNLIKELY. HE
ASSIGNED GREATEST RELUCTANCE TO NYERERE, WHO
IN RECENT CONVERSATION WITH OUKO SAID MEETING OF
AUTHORITY WAS QUOTE IMPOSSIBLE UNQUOTE.

4. OUKO EXPRESSED WARM APPRECIATION FOR U.S. ASSISTANCE
TO COMMUNITY. HE HOPED UNITED STATES WOULD CONTINUE
TO BELIEVE THAT DESPITE CURRENT DIFFICULTIES SUPPORTING
COMMUNITY WAS RIGHT. NO NATIONAL STATE GIVES UP IN
FACE OF PROBLEMS, HE SAID, AND COMMUNITY SHOULD NOT
DO SO.

MARSHALL

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
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TAGS: EALR, ECIN, KE, TZ, UG, US, EAC, (OUKO, R J)
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